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NEW STATISTICAL BOOKS ADDED TO BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY DURING QUARTER ENDING MARCH 31, 1916.

PREPARED BY LIBRARY COMMITTEE: ROGER W. BABSON, EDMUND E. DAY,
HENRY J. HARRIS.

- Donald, W. J. A. The Canadian iron and steel industry. A study in the economic history of a protected industry. Boston. 1915. Maps. Tables. [Hart, Schaffner & Marx Prize essays.] Bibliography, pp. 359-366. 9338.471
- Dunbar, Donald Earl. The tin-plate industry. Boston. 1915. Charts. Tables. [Hart, Schaffner & Marx Prize essays.] Bibliography, pp. 125-128. An economic study of a protected industry. 9338.419a2
- Haig, Robert Murray. The exemption of improvements from taxation in Canada and the United States. A report prepared for the Committee on Taxation of the City of New York. New York. 1915. Plans. Tables. 9033.373
- Hasse, Adelheid Rosalia. Index of economic material in documents of the states of the United States. New Jersey. 1789-1904. Washington. 1914. [Carnegie Institution of Washington. Publication.] 9016.3073a13
- Hepburn, Alonzo Barton. A history of currency in the United States. New York. 1915. Tables. Bibliography, pp. 479-495. 9332.4973a3
- Huebner, Grover Gerhard. Agricultural commerce: the organization of American commerce in agricultural commodities. New York. 1915. Maps. Tables. Facsimiles. Bibliographies at the end of most chapters. 9380.73a6
- Huebner, Solomon S. Life insurance: a text book. New York. 1915. Tables. Bibliographies at the ends of some chapters. 9368.3a65
- International Institute of Agriculture, Rome. Bureau of General Statistics. Bulletin of agricultural and commercial statistics. [Monthly.] Vol. 2 (no. 11, 12), 3 (no. 2, 6-12), 4, 5. 1911-14. 9338.1a23
- Shriver, J. Alexis. Canned-goods trade in the Far East. Washington. 1915. Tables. 9382.73a35.92
—Pineapple-canning industry of the world. Washington. 1915. 9382.73a35.91
- United States. Department of Agriculture. Weekly news letter. Vol. 1-3 (no. 1-17). Washington. 1913-15. Illus. Plans. Previous to vol. 2, no. 35, April 14, 1915, the title was, Weekly news letter to crop correspondents. 9338.173a8
- Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce. Banking and credit in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, and Peru. Prepared by Edward N. Hurley. Washington. 1914. Table. 9382.73a35.90

Economics of Retailing. By Paul H. Nystrom. Ronald Press Co., 20 Vesey St., New York, 1915. 407 pp. \$2.00, postpaid.

The significance of this book to statisticians is its demonstration of the serious lack of fundamental statistical data in this great field of business

activity. It is possible to learn from the census reports how many establishments, employees, etc., are engaged in manufacturing, mining, and agriculture. The value of the products and the plants can also be ascertained in the same way; but nobody knows how many stores or storekeepers there are in the country and nobody can find out how many people are employed or how much they earn in the aggregate. It is a matter of common knowledge that an increasing proportion of the incomes of the people of this country are being expended in retail stores, year by year. But neither the amount of the gross income of the people, nor the proportion so expended is known with even approximate accuracy.

There can be no doubt that the retail store is one of the most important links in the chain of activities and processes by which the wants of the consumers are met by a ceaseless flow of goods from producers. It would be interesting and enlightening to know just how much this service costs. The author states that the "distribution" of goods, which includes transportation, insurance, and storage as well as the selling, probably costs more than the manufacturing. It is generally recognized that there is great inefficiency and waste in retailing. Here then is the place where statistics should be made available, if we are to deal intelligently with the rising cost of living.

The author has made excellent use of what figures he could get while at the same time he points out their inaccuracies and inadequacy.

The work is what the title indicates, a study of the economics of retailing. It combines in a very effective way the descriptive and analytical methods of treatment. It fits in splendidly between general economics on the one hand and the handbooks and treatises of a more technical character in business management and salesmanship on the other. It supplements general economics where many students have felt the need of a fuller treatment, and it affords a historical background and a scientific groundwork for the art of the merchant and the salesman.

The book is well written and is presented in a satisfactory typography. It should be interesting and easy reading for both business men and student.

CARROLL W. DOTEN.

Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

RESOLUTION.

At a Meeting of the American Statistical Association, held in New York City, May 5, 1916, the following resolution was adopted by unanimous vote of the members present:

WHEREAS, The Joint Resolution introduced in Congress by Senator John D. Works, of California, making it unlawful for any officer or employee of the United States Public Health Service to be, or to become, a member or officer of, or in any way connected with, any medical or private health association or organization of any kind, if passed by Congress, would limit the usefulness of a very important branch of government service; and